

ways to cut spending and there is never any revenue. The President has made it very, very clear. They have already passed the President's proposal, which is to make sure people making less than \$250,000 a year are not burdened with an extra \$2,200 each after the first of the year. That passed in July. The House could take that up. Every Democrat in the House has agreed they will vote for that. We need only 25 or 26 Republicans in the House to make life something that is stable for people making less than \$250,000 a year.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, may I ask my friend from Maryland if he has spoken on the Magnitsky portion of this bill?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. We have not yet gotten to the bill. I believe we are now prepared to go to H.R. 6156. I know the Senator from Connecticut would like to speak for 5 minutes, and I was hoping we could get some time where we could go back and forth and talk about the Magnitsky aspects of that legislation now.

Am I correct, Mr. President, that the bill has not yet been reported or it will be reported now and that perhaps we can enter into a consent agreement as to the next 30 or 40 minutes?

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

RUSSIA AND MOLDOVA JACKSON-VANIK REPEAL AND SERGEI MAGNITSKY RULE OF LAW ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to consideration of H.R. 6156, which the clerk will report by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6156) to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to products of the Russian Federation and Moldova and to require reports on the compliance of the Russian Federation with its obligations as a member of the World Trade Organization, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I also note several of our friends, including Senator LIEBERMAN, who are on the floor. Senator LIEBERMAN also has had a major role in this legislation, and I would ask unanimous consent that he be included in the colloquy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask my friend, Senator CARDIN, I had a statement I wanted to make before the colloquy and I know the Senator has a statement. Since it is his legislation, I

would be glad to wait with my remarks until the Senator from Maryland completes his. And how much time, could I ask, of my colleague?

Mr. CARDIN. I think my initial comments would be about 10 minutes.

Mr. MCCAIN. And I would have about 10 minutes, if that is agreeable to my friend from Connecticut—who, obviously, is jobless and homeless. So I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Maryland make his remarks, followed by mine, and then the Senator from Connecticut.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, first, let me thank Senator MCCAIN for not just working this out but for his leadership on this issue. He has provided the moral leadership we need on dealing with human rights issues. He is a co-sponsor of the Sergei Magnitsky Accountability Act, and I thank him for that.

Today we close a chapter in the U.S. history on the advancing of human rights with the repeal basically of Jackson-Vanik. It served its purpose. Today, we open a new chapter in U.S. leadership for human rights with the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act.

As the Presiding Officer has heard, this involves a lawyer named Sergei Magnitsky who had U.S. interests that he was representing in Russia. He discovered the largest tax fraud in Russia's history. He did what a lawyer should do: He brought it to the attention of the authorities.

As a result of his bringing this corruption in local government to the authorities, he was arrested. He was tortured because they wanted him to recant what he had said. They wanted him to basically not tell the truth. He refused to do that. He needed medical attention; he was denied medical attention; and on November 16, 2009, he lost his life in a Russian prison, being denied the opportunity to get needed health care. He was 37 years old, with a wife and two children. Those who were responsible for his death and those who were responsible for the coverup have never been brought to justice. They have gone unpunished, and in some cases they have even been promoted.

The facts are well known. These are not hidden facts. The international community knows the people who were involved, knows about the coverup, and knows that they have not been held accountable, and this has gained international attention. That is why I filed legislation aimed at the individuals responsible for the Magnitsky tragedy. It says, quite clearly, that those involved would be held accountable by being denied certain international rights.

It also includes those involved in extrajudicial killings, torture, or violations of internationally recognized human rights. The legislation says, Look, we are not going to let you have

the fruits of your corruption. We are going to deny you the opportunity to hold your illegal gains in our banking system—which is where they prefer; they don't want to hold rubles, they want to hold dollars—and that we will not let you have a visa, a privilege, to visit our country, to visit your property in our country or your family in this country. It targets the individuals who committed the gross human rights violation, and it recognizes the failure of the host country to deal with those violations.

I want to thank all those who have been involved in the development of this legislation. Senator MCCAIN has been one of the great leaders on these human rights issues. This is not a partisan division. We have strong bipartisan support. I have already acknowledged Senator KYL, who recently spoke. I know Senator WICKER took the floor a little earlier and I thank him, the ranking member on the Helsinki Commission. I want to thank Senator SHAHEEN, the chair of the European Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for her work, and Senator BOB MENENDEZ on the Foreign Relations Committee. All those individuals were very instrumental in dealing with this. Senator DURBIN has been a real champion on human rights. I want to acknowledge Kyle Parker, staff person from the Helsinki Commission, who was very instrumental in the development of this legislation. I want to also acknowledge Senator LIEBERMAN's work. I know he will be speaking in a few minutes.

It was Senator LIEBERMAN, Senator MCCAIN, and myself who first suggested that we should pass the Magnitsky bill. It is the right thing to do, but we certainly shouldn't let PNTR go without attaching the Magnitsky bill. I thank Senator LIEBERMAN and Senator MCCAIN for raising that connection. It was the right thing to do. First, it allowed us to get this human rights tool enacted. Secondly, I think it gave us the best chance to get the PNTR bill done in the right form. So I thank both of them for their leadership.

In 1974, we passed the Jackson-Vanik law that dealt with the failure of the Soviet Union to allow for the emigration of its citizens, affecting mainly Soviet Jews. It was controversial in its time. People said, Why are we connecting human rights to trade? Why is the United States doing that? After all, trade is so important.

Well, we did it. It made a huge difference, and we were able to get Soviet Jews out of the Soviet Union. We spoke for Western values in our trade legislation. We protected the rights of individuals who refused this.

When I first came to Congress 26 years ago, I joined the congressional caucus for Soviet Jewry. I wore the wrist bands of refuseniks, joined by many of our colleagues. Twenty-five years ago, I marched in Washington, a march for Soviet Jews. We stood for basic rights, and we changed the landscape on this issue. I had a chance to